

527  
C27  
B2

27. (Amended) A method of modulating tissue encapsulation of an indwelling catheter comprising implanting the indwelling catheter into a patient, wherein the indwelling catheter comprises:

an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and

an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;

wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises an overcoating of a non-porous polymer in [intimate contact with] which a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is incorporated.

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C37  
B3

29. (Amended) A method of modulating degradation of an indwelling catheter comprising implanting the indwelling catheter into a patient, wherein the indwelling catheter comprises:

an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and

an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;

wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises an over-coating of a non-porous polymer in [intimate contact with] which a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is incorporated.

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33. (Amended) A method of making an indwelling catheter comprising:

providing an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; wherein the tissue-contacting surface comprises an overcoat of a polymer in [intimate contact with] which a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is incorporated; and

coupling an external fitting to the proximal end of the elongate body.

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34. (Amended) The method of claim 33 wherein the step of providing an elongate body comprises [blending a] mixing the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent with [a] the polymer